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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/075,624	02/15/2002	Masahiro Matsuo	R2180.0121/P121	3607

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EXAMINER

LAXTON, GARY L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2838

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/075,624

Applicant(s)

MATSUO ET AL.

Examiner

Gary L. Laxton

Art Unit

2838

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 May 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 15 and 29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-14, 16-28 and 30-42 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 15 and 29 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 15 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Park.

Claim 1, Park discloses a power supply apparatus (figure 2), comprising: a DC-to-DC converter (20) arranged and configured to perform a voltage conversion for converting a voltage of a source power (10) supplied from a direct current power source to a first predetermined voltage (V_{out}), said first predetermined voltage being lower than said voltage of said source power; and a voltage regulator (72) arranged and configured to carrying out a voltage regulation for regulating said first predetermined voltage of said source power to at least a second

Art Unit: 2838

predetermined voltage, said second predetermined voltage being lower than said first predetermined voltage (e.g. 3.3v).

Claim 15, Park discloses a power supply apparatus (figure 2), comprising: converting means (20) for performing a DC-to-DC conversion to achieve a voltage conversion for converting a voltage of a source power (10) supplied from a direct current power source to a first predetermined voltage (V_{out}), said first predetermined voltage being lower than said voltage of said source power; and regulating means (72) for carrying out a voltage regulation for regulating said first predetermined voltage of said source power to at least a second predetermined voltage, said second predetermined voltage being lower than said first predetermined voltage (e.g. 3.3v).

Claim 29, Park discloses a method of power supply, comprising the steps of: performing a DC-to-DC conversion with a DC-to-DC converter (20) to achieve a voltage conversion for converting a voltage of a source power supplied from a direct current power source to a first predetermined voltage (V_{out}), said first predetermined voltage being lower than said voltage of said source power; and regulating said first predetermined voltage of said source power to at least a second predetermined voltage, said second predetermined voltage being lower than said first predetermined voltage (e.g. 3.3v).

4. Claims 1, 15 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Uchida.

Claim 1, Uchida discloses a power supply apparatus (figure 1), comprising: a DC-to-DC converter (1-1) arranged and configured to perform a voltage conversion for converting a voltage of a source power (106) supplied from a direct current power source to a first predetermined

Art Unit: 2838

voltage (107), said first predetermined voltage being lower than said voltage of said source power; and a voltage regulator (1-2) arranged and configured to carrying out a voltage regulation for regulating said first predetermined voltage of said source power to at least a second predetermined voltage, said second predetermined voltage being lower than said first predetermined voltage (col. 1 lines 64-70; col. 2 lines 1-7; col. 3 lines 34-47; col. 4 lines 6-26).

Claim 15, Uchida discloses a power supply apparatus (figure 1), comprising: converting means for performing a DC-to-DC conversion (1-1) to achieve a voltage conversion for converting a voltage of a source power supplied (106) from a direct current power source to a first predetermined voltage (107), said first predetermined voltage being lower than said voltage of said source power; and regulating means (1-2) for carrying out a voltage regulation for regulating said first predetermined voltage of said source power to at least a second predetermined voltage, said second predetermined voltage being lower than said first predetermined voltage (col. 1 lines 64-70; col. 2 lines 1-7; col. 3 lines 34-47; col. 4 lines 6-26).

Claim 29, Uchida discloses a method of power supply, comprising the steps of: performing a DC-to-DC conversion with a DC-to-DC converter (1-1) to achieve a voltage conversion for converting a voltage of a source power (106) supplied from a direct current power source to a first predetermined voltage (107), said first predetermined voltage being lower than said voltage of said source power; and regulating said first predetermined voltage of said source power to at least a second predetermined voltage, said second predetermined voltage being lower than said first predetermined voltage (col. 1 lines 64-70; col. 2 lines 1-7; col. 3 lines 34-47; col. 4 lines 6-26).

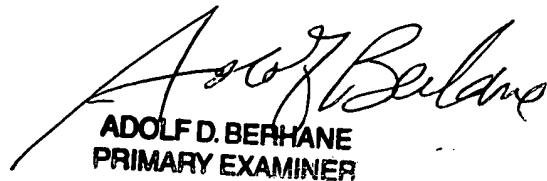
Art Unit: 2838

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary L. Laxton whose telephone number is (703) 305-7039. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on (703)308-1680. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7724 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

GLL
July 25, 2003


ADOLF D. BERHANE
PRIMARY EXAMINER